

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/642,855

Examiner

Stephen M. Hepperle

Applicant(s)

RHODES, STEPHEN MILES

Art Unit

3753

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to request for reconsideration of 15 May 2006 and interview of 24 May 2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,3-8,10 and 11.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
 a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:  
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.  
 (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached  
 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.  
 (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.  
 Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)           |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____ |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment                   |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material          | 8. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance             |
|   | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____   |

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An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Ted Olds on 24 May 2006.

The application has been amended as follows:

In claim 1, the ending period has been changed to a semicolon, and the following paragraph has been added, --wherein each said handle turns with a central shaft, and water being supplied through a water supply line in said central shaft.--;

Claims 2 and 9 have been cancelled;

The dependency of claims 3 and 4 has been changed from "2" to -1--;

In claim 3, line 2, "radially" has been changed to -radial, and in line 3, the second occurrence of "radially" has been changed to -radial--;

In claim 4, "manifold body" has been changed to -hollow manifold--;

In claim 5, line 8, "said handles turn" has been changed to -each said handle turns--, in line 10, "radially" has been changed to -radial--, in line 11, the second occurrence of "radially" has been changed to -radial--, in line 10, "said central" has been changed to -each said central--, and in line 13, --each-- has been inserted before "said shaft" and "said handle";

In claim 6, line 8, "said handles turn" has been changed to -each said handle turns--, and in line 10, "shaft extends" has been changed to -shafts extend--; and

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In claim 7, line 8, "said handles turn" has been changed to --each said handle turns--.

The above amendments clarify some potential clarity issues discussed in the interview. Upon reconsideration, all objections to the drawings stand withdrawn, as it is now clear to the examiner that the valves are properly illustrated (item 38 in the figures). Also, it is now the position of the examiner that the recited central shaft having a water supply line therein is not taught in the prior art.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stephen M. Hepperle".

Stephen M. Hepperle  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 3753

SMH